



Hearing Aid Dispensers Bureau

Symptoms of Hearing Loss

CONSUMER INFORMATION SHEET 2

If you are not sure whether or not you have a hearing loss, read below:

Do you:

- Frequently ask others to repeat themselves?
- Think others are mumbling?
- Watch a speaker intently?
- Play a TV or radio at a high volume?
- Respond to questions with inappropriate answers?
- Have difficulty conversing on the telephone?
- Fail to understand when someone is speaking behind you?
- Withdraw from social situations?

If you feel that you have a hearing loss, consult with your physician to determine what steps may be taken to improve your hearing.

What type of hearing loss do you have?

Hearing loss is categorized into three areas. The area that you are in will determine what type of help is available.

CONDUCTIVE LOSS: Affects the outer and middle ear; inner ear is normal; generally caused by wax impaction, perforation of the ear drum or other middle ear structure problem; corrected medically and/or with amplification.

SENSORINEURAL: Affects middle and inner ear; hearing loss is permanent, irreversible, and progressive; caused by cochlear or auditory nerve dysfunction; generally helped with amplification.

MIXED HEARING LOSS: Combination of both conductive & sensorineural losses; affects middle and inner ear mechanisms; middle ear is closest to normal limits; generally loss can be helped medically and with amplification.